

Listing and Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace the claims that were published in the PCT Application and the International Preliminary Examination Report:

1. (currently amended) Method for composition of subtitles for audio/video presentations, wherein data streams containing video, audio and subtitle information are transferred from a storage medium, such as a disc, ~~characterized in~~ including the steps of
 - retrieving from said storage medium subtitle layer data, the subtitle layer data containing graphic subtitle elements;
 - extracting from said retrieved subtitle layer data cropping information (RHC,RVC,RCH,RCW); and
 - enabling automatic cropping of parts of the subtitle elements to be displayed, wherein the cropped parts are defined by said cropping information.
2. (previously amended) Method according to claim 1, wherein the cropped parts of the subtitle elements are synchronized to the audio/video presentation through presentation time stamps.
3. (currently amended) Method according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the subtitle layer data comprise data for a first color look-up table to be used within a sub-region of said cropped parts of the subtitles, the sub-region being specified by parameters (SCHA,SCVA,SCH,SCW) included in said subtitle layer data, and further comprise data for a different second color look-up table to be used in the remainder of the subtitle layer.
4. (currently amended) Method according to ~~any of the previous claims~~ claim 1, wherein a user may interactively move, crop or highlight subtitles or modify the colors of subtitles.

5. (currently amended) Apparatus for composition of subtitles for audio/video presentations, wherein data streams containing video, audio and subtitle information are transferred from a storage medium, ~~characterized in the~~ apparatus including
- means for retrieving from said storage medium subtitle layer data, wherein the subtitle layer data contain graphic subtitle elements;
 - means for extracting from said retrieved subtitle layer data cropping information (~~RHC,RVC,RCH,RCW~~); and
 - means for enabling automatic cropping of parts of the subtitle elements to be displayed, wherein the cropped parts are defined by said cropping information.
6. (currently amended) Apparatus according to ~~the previous claim~~ claim 5, further comprising means for synchronizing the cropped parts of the subtitles to the audio/video presentation through presentation time stamps.

Claims 7-9 are cancelled.

10. (new) Apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising a subtitle decoder that is capable of superseding default subtitle parameters with other subtitle parameters generated upon user action, for interactively modifying or highlighting subtitles.

11. (new) Apparatus for composition of subtitles, the apparatus mixing and switching video and graphics data, the data being read from a storage medium or received from a network and comprising still picture data or MPEG video data, data for at least two layers of subtitles or animations, and optionally data for non-synchronized graphics, the apparatus comprising

- a mixer that may superimpose video data of a back layer, at least two middle layers and a front layer;
- a mixer and scaler that may superimpose video data of a back layer, a middle layer and a front layer, the mixer and scaler providing its output data to the mixer;

- a video decoder and/or a still picture decoder, wherein the output data of either the video decoder or the still picture decoder may be switched to the mixer and scaler;
- at least two simultaneously working decoders for synchronized graphics or subtitles, wherein the output of each of the decoders may be switched to either the mixer or the mixer and scaler, and wherein a decoder may select a part of its input data to be output for display;
- a renderer for the non-synchronized graphics, providing data to the mixer.

12. (new) Apparatus according to claim 11, further comprising a subtitle decoder that is capable of superseding default subtitle parameters with other subtitle parameters generated upon user action, for interactively modifying or highlighting subtitles.

13. (new) Optical storage medium containing data for audio/video presentation and data for composition of subtitles for said audio/video presentation, wherein the data for composition of subtitles contain

- data representing graphic subtitle elements to be rendered in a subtitle layer; and
- cropping information defining parts of the graphic subtitle elements to be automatically cropped before displaying the subtitles.